

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-15 are amended, and new claims 16-34 are added. Support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and therefore no new matter is added.

In the Office Action claims 1-5 appear to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response claims 1 and 3 are amended to recite “device control means,” and claim 5 is amended to recite “overwriting a program registered in a program memory of a main body of a data control apparatus.” It is submitted that the amendments overcome the rejection. Thus, it is requested that the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

As the outstanding grounds of rejection of claims 1-15 are overcome for the above reasons, allowance of claims 1-15 is requested.

New claims 16-34 recite features similar to those recited in claims 1-15, respectively, and are therefore allowable for similar reasons.

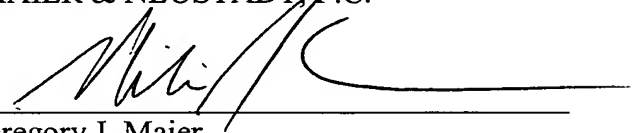
It is noted that the Examiner has not evidenced consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on June 20, 2002. It is requested that the Examiner return, with the next PTO communication, an initialed, signed and dated copy of the PTO-1449 form evidencing consideration of the IDS documents.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340

I:\ATTY\PH\21s\219656\12122005_AMENDMENT.DOC